



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:)	Examiner: Robert Clinton HAYES
Frederic J. de SAUVAGE, et al.)	Art Unit: 1647
Application Serial No: 09/272,835)	Confirmation No. 6145
Filed: March 19, 1999)	Attorney's Docket No. 39766-0065 A (P1268R1)
For: GFRα3 AND ITS USES)	Customer No. 25213

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP RCE

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The present communication is responsive to the Office action mailed on September 20, 2004, and is filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination of the above indicated application.

A Notice of Appeal was filed on September 20, 2004 pursuant to the final rejection of Claims 98-102 set forth in an Office Action mailed on March 30, 2004 in connection with the above-named application. A request for a two months' extension of time to file a paper pursuant to the Notice of Appeal filed on September 20, 2004 was filed with the Request for Continued Examination in this case. Accordingly, the Request for Continued Examination and this Preliminary Amendment are timely filed with this extension of time.

Please consider the following remarks prior to issuance of an Office Action.

Listing of the Claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 3.